

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

IO-13 OMB-01 RSR-01 /119 W
----- 080279

R 271615Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8273

INFO AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, PO

SUBJECT: SPEECH TO NATION BY PM CAETANO

SUMMARY: CAETANO'S JULY 27 ADDRESS CONTAINS TRADITIONAL POSITIONS PLUS SEVERAL IMPORTANT NEW ELEMENTS SUCH AS PROTECTION OF WHITE MINORITY IN ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE AS RATIONALE FOR CONTINUING WAR. PM NOTED LABOR AND YOUTH OPPOSITION AT HOME TO OVERSEAS POLICY. SCARCE MENTION OF GUINEA AND PM'S STRESS ON UNIQUENESS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA SUGGEST THAT NATION BEING PREPARED FOR POSSIBLE CHANGE IN STATUS OF GUINEA. END SUMMARY

1. CAETANO'S JULY 27 RADIO AND TV "FIRESIDE CHAT" ADDRESS TO NATION DEFENDED AFRICAN WARS AND CONTAINED NEW POINTS OF INTEREST. SPEECH INCLUDED FOLLOWING:

A) HEAVY STRESS ON THEME OF CURRENT ATTACKS ON ENTIRE PORTUGUESE NATION AND LACK OF ALTERNATIVE TO OVERSEAS POLICY WITHOUT CATASTROPHIC RESULTS.

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B) HISTORICAL SKETCH OF WORLDWIDE MIGRATION AND

COLONIZATION INCLUDING POINT THAT NEITHER AMERICANS NOR AUSTRALIA ARE GOVERNED BY INDIGENOUS POPULATION.

C) IN VIEW OF THIS HISTORY WHITE AND ASIAN PRESENCE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA HAS LEGITIMATE BASIS. SOUTHERN AFRICA EMPTY AND UNDEVELOPED PRIOR TO ARRIVAL OF EUROPEANS. UNLIKE CLASSICAL DECOLONIZATION SITUATION. PORTUGUESE SETTLERS CANNOT EASILY RETURN. THUS, ONLY FUTURE COURSE IS MULTIRACIAL SOCIETY FOR ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE.

D) SOUTHERN AFRICA, AS OPPOSED TO TROPICAL AFRICA UNIQUE DUE TO CLIMATIC CONDITIONS FAVORING ESTABLISHMENT OF ELEMENTS FROM OTHER CONTINENTS.

E) RULE OF TYRANNY BY MAJORITY IN UN RESULTS IN PRECEDENTS SUCH AS RECOGNITION OF GUERRILLA GROUPS.

F) YOUTH AND LABOR GROUPS ALLIED WITH OUTSIDE FORCES AGITATE WITHIN PORTUGAL FOR SUBVERSIVE PURPOSES. CAMPAIGN AGAINST GOP OVERSEAS POLICY ORCHESTRATED FROM WITHIN AND OUTSIDE PORTUGAL WITH VIEW TO PREVENTING GOP FROM RECEIVING IN THIS YEAR'S ELECTIONS ANOTHER CLEAR MANDATE FROM THE PEOPLE TO CONTINUE THAT POLICY.

G) PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT NEVER ORDERED, CONSENTED, OR APPROVED OF ANY VIOLENT ACT AGAINST CIVILIANS. RATHER THAN ATTACKING, PORTUGAL HAS BEEN ATTACKED. SUBVERSION OVERSEAS OFTEN SPREAD BY THOSE PRETENDING TO PREACH PEACE AND LOVE.

2. COMMENT: THIS IS FIRST TIME TO OUR KNOWLEDGE THAT GOVERNMENT HAS PUBLICLY ADMITTED THAT PRINCIPAL JUSTIFICATION FOR OVERSEAS WAR IS FEARED EXPULSION OF WHITES. OBLIGATION TO WHITE MINORITY, NOT POPULATION AS A WHOLE, STRESSED FOR FIRST TIME.

3. STRONG DISTINCTION DRAWN BETWEEN SOUTHERN AND TROPICAL AFRICA PLUS ALMOST TOTAL LACK OF REFERENCE TO GUINEA POINT TO POSSIBLE PREPARATION OF PUBLIC FOR FUTURE CHANGE IN GUINEA'S STATUS.
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4. CAREFUL DENIAL OF MASSACRE CHARGE DISCLAIMS ANY DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY BUT DOES NOT DENY THAT A MASSACRE TOOK PLACE. IN WAKE OF RECENT MASSACRE CHARGE AND WORKER UNREST REDEFINITION OF WAR RATIONALE PLUS RECOGNITION OF YOUTH AND LABOR OPPOSITION AT HOME SUGGEST GOVERNMENT FEELS ITSELF UNDER INCREASING PRESSURE BOTH AT HOME AND ABROAD.
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